

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1-110. (Canceled).

111. (currently amended) A digital video management system for remote live video monitoring of one or more areas or processes of interest, the system including:

a plurality of cameras, each camera having a respective camera streamer configured to packetize the camera output and to provide live first video signals to a computer communications network;

a ~~video server~~ plurality of video servers configured for linking to the network, wherein each video server is configured to receive the first video signals from an associate one or more cameras, and configured to be responsive to a predetermined schedule for storing on storage media associated with the server at least some of the first video signals from the associated one or more cameras;

at least one client computer terminal configured for linking to the network, the client computer terminal being configured for requesting, receiving and displaying to an operator video signals received over the computer communications network, including playback of stored video signals for allowing the operator to review past events, and live video signals for allowing the operator to view events live; and

wherein, in response to a request from the client computer terminal for a live video signal from a selected camera, the video server associated with the selected camera is configured for providing the requested live video signals to the computer communications network wherein the live video signals are addressed to the client computer terminal which issued the request, wherein providing the requested live video

signals includes receiving video frames from the camera streamer and re-broadcasting those video frames independent of those frames being stored on storage media ~~media~~; wherein each video server is configured for providing live video signals by multicast streaming such that only a single client computer can control the live video signals at a given point in time, and additionally configured for providing stored video signals by other than multicast streaming such that multiple client computers are able to view and control the same piece of stored video simultaneously without affecting each other.

112. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111 wherein the predetermined schedule includes a plurality of time based trigger points and the server stores the first video signals starting at a first predetermined period prior to each point and a second predetermined period after each point.

113. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111 wherein the predetermined schedule includes a plurality of event based trigger points and the server stores the first video signals starting at a first predetermined period prior to each point and a second predetermined period after each point.

114. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 113 including a sensor for providing a third signal to the network, wherein one of the event based trigger points comprises the third signal falling within a predetermined range.

115. (Canceled).

116. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 112 wherein the first and the second predetermined periods are configurable based upon one or more of: on a per camera basis; on a per area basis; on an event type basis.

117. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 112 wherein the duration of the first and the second predetermined periods are configurable.

118. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111 including a plurality of client terminals and a controller for controlling the signals that are provided to respective terminals.

119. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 118 wherein the terminals provide over the network respective camera control commands to the video server and the video server processes those commands and generates control signals that are sent to the relevant camera via the network.

120. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 118 wherein the processing of the commands by the video server includes a determination of whether or not the terminal sending the respective command has access rights to the relevant camera.

121. (Withdrawn) A digital video management system including:
a plurality of cameras for providing respective first video signals to a computer communications network;

a video server for linking to the network, receiving the first video signals and storing on storage media associated with the server at least some of the first video signals, wherein the server is responsive to a plurality of client account records for accessing the first signals and/or the stored signals to selectively produce a plurality of second video signals; and

a plurality of client computer terminals corresponding to each client access record, the terminals being linked to the network for requesting and receiving respective second signals.

122. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 11 wherein at least some of the client account records are changeable via the respective client computer terminal.

123. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 11 wherein the client account records include data indicative of the one or more first signals and/or stored signals that the server is responsive to when producing the respective second signals.

124. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 11 wherein the client account records include data indicative of one or more predetermined triggers.

125. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 14 wherein the trigger is one or more of: a predetermined time; a predetermined interval; and an event.

126. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15 wherein the event is predicated by a transducer that provides an event signal to the video server via the network.

127. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111, wherein the first video signals are compressed by the cameras.

128. (Canceled).

129. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111, wherein the camera streamers compress the respective first video signals.

130. Canceled.

131. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 120, wherein the controller is adapted to receive camera control functionality requests from the terminals and to forward camera control commands to the cameras.

132. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 131, wherein the controller is adapted to deny a control functionality request relating to a camera being controlled by another terminal.

133. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 131, wherein the controller is adapted to grant or deny a control request in dependence upon security level information relating to a user making the request.

134. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 111, wherein the live video signals are provided encoded to give priority to the video stream over the audio stream to emphasize coherency of the video stream.

135. (Withdrawn) A digital video management system for remote live video monitoring of one or more areas or processes of interest, the system including:

a plurality of cameras, each camera having a respective camera streamer for packetising the camera output to provide respective live video signals to a computer communications network;

a plurality of video servers in communication with the network, each video server having a respective camera manager for managing a subset of said plurality of cameras, wherein each video server is configured to receive the video signals from said subset of the cameras and, in response to receiving a command from a web server in communication with the network, to provide live access to one of said received video signals to a client computer;

the web server having a primary camera manager for receiving a command from a client computer terminal, processing the command to determine a camera to which the command relates and for forwarding the command to the corresponding video server; and

a client computer terminal in communication with the network and configured for generating a command to the web server and for receiving the live video signal live from the video server.

136. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 135, further including a data server, and wherein at least one of said video servers is in communication the data server to effect storage of at least some of the video signals.

137. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 136, wherein the web server is configured, in response to a command from the client terminal, to provide access to the stored video signals.

138. (Withdrawn) A method of managing a digital video system for remote live video monitoring of one or more areas or processes of interest, the method including the steps of:

at each of a plurality of camera streamers, receiving output from an associated camera, and packetizing said output to provide respective live video signals to a computer network;

at a plurality of video servers in communication with the network, receiving the video signals from a subset of said plurality of streamers and, in response to receiving a command from a web server in communication with the network, providing live access to one of said received video signals;

at a web server, receiving a command from a client computer terminal, processing the command to determine a camera to which the command relates and forwarding the command to the corresponding video server; and

at a client computer terminal in communication with the network generating a command to the web server and receiving the live video signal live from a video server.

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